

REMARKS

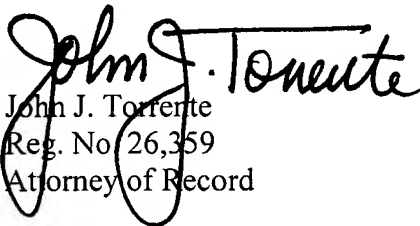
Applicants have enclosed herewith a certified translation of applicants' Japanese priority document (Japanese Patent Application No. 2000/143354, filed May 16, 2000) to establish an effective filing date for the subject application of May 16, 2000. As set forth in applicants' Response dated January 5, 2005, the submission of the certified translation now removes the Grainger, et al. (U. S. Pub. No. 2002/0065675 A1) reference as a citable reference against the subject application, thereby overcoming the Examiner's rejection.

Accordingly, reconsideration and passage of this application to issue is respectfully requested.

Dated: January 17, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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